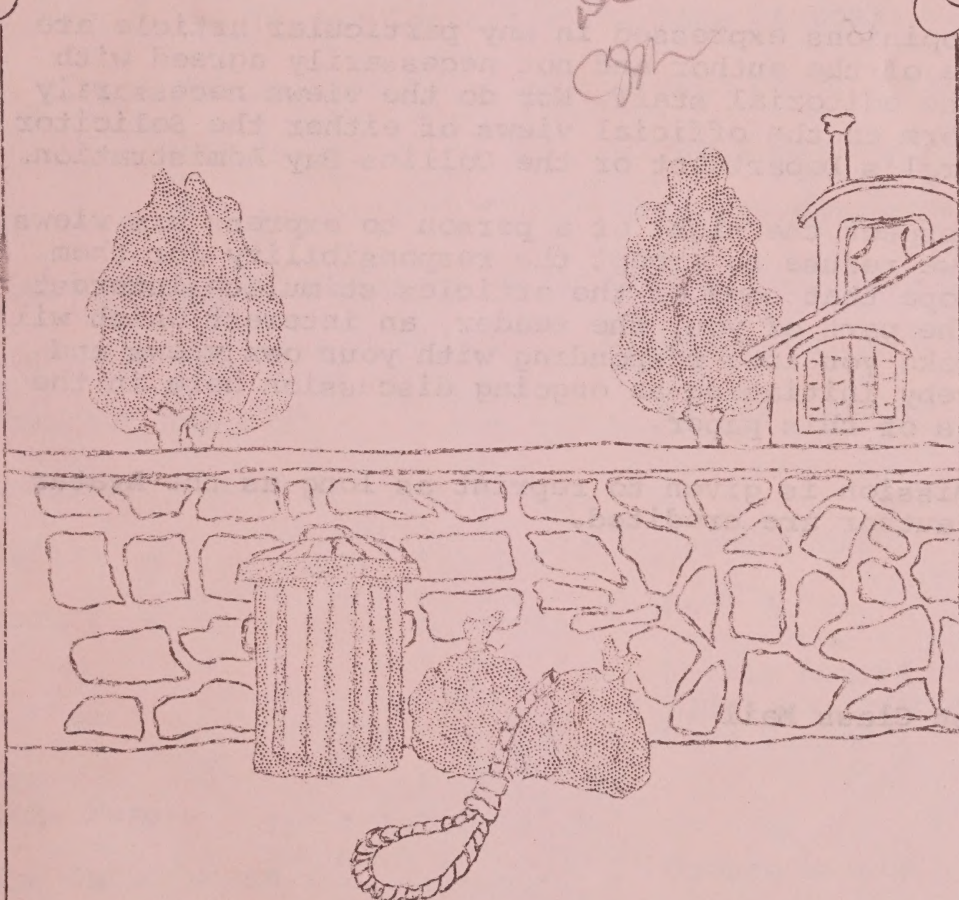


AVATAR



EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor George Watson
Associate Editor Wayne Hurlburt
Artist Robert Fournier

The opinions expressed in any particular article are those of the author and not necessarily agreed with by the editorial staff. Nor do the views necessarily conform to the official views of either the Solicitor General's Department or the Collins Bay Administration.

We respect the right of a person to express his views, but we refuse to accept the responsibility for them. We hope that some of the articles stimulate interest on the part of you, the reader, an interest which will provoke you into responding with your own views and thereby initiating an ongoing discussion here in the pages of this paper.

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First Class Mail

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The View From Here

George Watson

Great amounts of publicity are given to criminal events in Canada when committed by the ordinary person and the law is severely harsh for the accused. Not too much publicity is given when the upholders of law commit any crime.

Periodically, the press will print a story about police brutality, there will be a haphazard investigation by other policemen and that is the end of it.

Recently, there have been a few articles on plea bargaining whereby the accused agrees to plead guilty to a charge in order to receive a certain sentence.

What hasn't been written about is the way "outstanding charges" are held over some inmates' heads.

There are numerous cases where an inmate will be notified while in prison that the police force in a certain city has a charge outstanding against him and

if the inmate wants the charge "cleared", he will have to plead guilty to it, otherwise, the charge will be "left open" until he has completed the sentence he is serving.

In this way, police forces are able to write many of the crimes on the books off as "solved".

If the inmate writes to the police force concerned and denies the charge and says he wants to go to court and fight it, the police leave the charge open until the inmate is released.

With an outstanding charge against him, an inmate is denied temporary absences or a transfer to a lesser security institution, so in many cases, they will plead guilty to a charge "just to get it over with".

This is "legal blackmail" and has been going on for a long time, but, because the police are doing it, it is considered acceptable.

Another way that an outstanding charge hurts the inmate is when he appears before the parole board. The parole board will not parole an inmate with any outstanding charges against him even though the inmate may be innocent of the charge.

There is one judge in the Kingston Area who has spoken out on this practice. He is Judge P.E.D. Baker but unfortunately, there aren't too many judges like him and the practice continues.

Inmates have written to the police forces agreeing to plead guilty if the charges were transferred to a local court; they have written crown attorneys and some have even written to the Attorney General of Ontario (but he is too busy pinching hockey players and newsdealers) but to no avail. The police know that as long as they keep an outstanding charge on an inmate, he will be denied privileges in jail.

What makes it very frustrating for the inmate is that no matter how minor the charge, it is effective against him.

When the ordinary citizen thinks of the term "organized crime", they have a vision of the Mafia but in

Canada, the police and the parole board label men as members of "organized crime" if there are two or three men charged with the same crime! That is not what is supposedly meant by "organized crime" but what is the charged person to do? He is at the mercy of the very people who make the decisions.

The influence of the police is felt by inmates in other ways also when they apply for temporary absences or parole.

A community assessment is made for every inmate who applies for either of these two privileges and what the police have to say carries a great amount of weight. Men have been denied temporary absences because the police don't want them in their city. Other men have had to change their destination when paroled because of the police. Some men have lived in a city all of their life but can't return to the city on parole because of police feelings so they have to uproot their families and move somewhere else.

If a man receives a particularly "bad" police report, he can be assured of a deferment when he appears before the parole board. These are a few of the reasons for hate and contempt of the law.

THE "NAME THE TRAIN" CONTEST

Dave Campbell

The City of Windsor's garbage is slated to travel the scenic Canadian Pacific Railway beginning in 1981 as some of you have probably heard. Approximately 1500 tons of swill a day will be hauled about 400 miles and dumped in the wilderness of Gananoque, Ontario.

Feeling that the 35-car rubbish shuttle shouldn't go unnamed, "The Swig-Standard" is sponsoring a "Name The Train" contest. Among the entries are:

"The Onion Express", "El Crapitan", "El Trash-In-Can", "Odorient Express", "The California Mold Rush", "The Garbageville Trolley", "The Offal Express", "The Downwind Zephyr", "The Crud Commuter", "The Daily Dumper", "The P.U. Choo-Choo", and the "Super Slop Cannonball".

Too late for consideration were: "The Smells Fargo" and "Raw Trash Dynamo".

The runaway leading entry is "The C.U.P.E. Express".

The first rejection of the contest was the "Irene Mooney Petitioner".

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The news media reported a shooting stated: "A woman was shot on her front porch and the bullet is in her yet." Where is a woman's yet?

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Even with a dull axe, you can blaze a trail.

- Robert Powers -

TO KILL A MOCKED BIRD

One of the most significant discussions over the past decade within the House of Commons, especially within the past few weeks, has been the issues raised over Bills 83 and 84 presented by the Solicitor General of Canada, Warren Allmand.

Less than four years ago, (1973) the same Minister argued to pass an Abolition Bill for a period of five years (another free vote) to give researchers time to evaluate the merits of the abolition of capital punishment. The five year period has not yet passed, but the Minister wishes to pass Bill 83 which would eliminate hanging, and introduce a term of twenty-five (25) years for first degree murder. This would be the minimum time served in prison unless a Board of Judges agreed to release the inmate in fifteen (15) years. For the most part, and naturally enough, inmates don't follow closely the discussions in the House of Commons. Like most prisoners, they become aware of

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John David Prince

the changes in law through experiencing the process of it, i.e. they either serve more time, or less time on their sentence depending upon the changes in the law or policies. I say naturally because I liken inmates thinking to the person who joins the army. They do not believe that there is a bullet which could kill them. Likewise, most criminals believe that they will not be caught, or if they do, they will not get arrested for a serious crime such as murder. And rightly so, very few people plan to murder anyone, in fact, Statistics Canada (1975) reports that only 10% of murders are committed by persons in the act of another felony, and that over 70% of murders are committed by persons who are related to the victim in some way. If these facts are true, then Bill 83 is not to protect the public from criminals, but to protect friends and relatives from each other, which in my opinion is fine if it saves lives but inmates shouldn't be made the

scapegoats:

I would like to digress for a moment and pass onto the reader some of the expressions of a few Ministers. One Minister, who sounded a "wee bit" like Rousseau (Social Contract) stated that the State had the right to influence the freedom that we experienced in everyday living but that since the State did not create the person, they do not have the right to eliminate the life of the person. There is the undeniable right to protect the citizens of the community but that death or the "legalized murder by the State" should not be allowed; it was a "pernicious doctrine." Several submissions were submitted that focused upon deterrence as important when considering the purpose of capital punishment. To me, it appeared rather paradoxical to discuss on the one hand, the lack of evidence to support retention, and in the same breath discuss the length of prison term as relevant to the protection of the public:

If there are no statistics to prove that the ultimate sanction, death, deters murders, then how can we entertain ideas that longer prison terms will reduce the "reported" increase of murder? As it happens, the

death rate is 2 per 100,000 (Canada) by felons. In Germany, the rate is 4 per 100,000, and other countries fluctuate from .2 to 4 in countries that have abolished capital punishment. My point is, if we attempt to use any punishment as a deterrent and cannot illustrate that the most drastic sanction reduces murder, the debate about deterrence ought to fail. An interesting piece of history was shared by one Minister. He said that at one time in England (1500), there were 72,000 executions over a 38 year period, a rate of five every two days! In the 1800's in England, there were over 300 offences which called for capital punishment. Forty of these were for forgery! Other information stated was that the largest portion of murders are committed in a rage or emotional imbalance of some sort; that only 10% of murders are the result of criminal pursuits. Although a life is very precious, it becomes tragic when two lives are lost for an event that may have taken only one foolish and unthinking second, in fact, some persons may not even know what the consequences of their actions. A Bishop suggested that a society, that attempted to honour life on the one hand, and yet in

order to give it sanctity, would kill another person, is missing the message of Jesus Christ. The Bishop felt that the Bible is used by debators just where it suits their purpose, and usually they take it out of context. The Bishop reminded us that Christ's message was to love one another in as much as we love ourselves.

A couple of more interesting statements centred around the act of murder being repeated. In one (1) case since 1867, a person whose death sentence was commuted did the person kill again, and seven persons convicted of murder killed again (either in prison, or while escaping or on parole) over the same period.

One Minister said, that since the justice system had, to the best of their knowledge, only hanged one innocent man, the odds of 7 to 1 were good enough to hang everyone! (Seven repeated and only one was hung who was innocent.)

As I see it, the basic issue is to protect and grant security to our community and its population. And a question we might very well ask ourselves is, "Will the threat of punishment protect us?" Perhaps a more certain means of protection could be the re-

evaluation of our societal structure (normal hierarchy) that creates a forum for deviance that creates anomalies.

Some people state that the only sure protection is the certain apprehension of the culprit. Even so, what do we do then with the culprit and how do we return the victim his/her life?

For the most part, it is "lock the offender up" and the new Bill is once again suggesting that the only sensible thing to do to protect our community members is to lock people up for years ... a return to turning the screws on the thumbs, and/or the stretching of necks.

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B.C. HOSTAGE PREDICTED HER OWN DEATH

Mary Steinhauser told a friend that if there was ever a hostage - taking incident at the B.C. penitentiary, "the guards would get me," her sister said during an inquest into her death.

Mrs Margaret Heronitis said her sister gave that prediction to Petra Graves before a June, 1975 incident in which she was killed when armed guards stormed into the area where she was a hostage.

- Montreal Star -

HAVE GUN WILL TRAVEL

james edwards

Mercenary, Soldier of Fortune? Both terms are somewhat alluring, irresistible, expectant, evoking images of piratical adventure, idyllic African nights following hot days of courageous battle, jungle fauna, tigers, lions, elephants, spirited away treasures of diamonds and gold and ivory tusks; mulatto maidens and valiant, naked bronze warriors for comradery who, nevertheless, understanding their place, will obsequiously refer to one, the mighty white warrior as Bhwana.

In short, just as Jungle Jim and Edgar Rice Burroughs who incidently, never set foot on the African continent, said it would be.

Is it a wonder then that the dregs and misfits, rowdies and wranglers of our TV Cowboy/Militaristic culture step into their Have-Gun-Will Travel canoes and paddle to foreign shores, to meddle in conflicts minus the regrettably, yet, morally acceptable ideologies that are used to

justify all wars; God is on our side; Stemming the Flow or Tide of International Communism; Manifest Destiny; Class Struggle; To Make the World Safe for Democracy, etc. But simply answering the call to money, gullible respondents to another of those get-rich-quick schemes so rampant in our societies, come with no guarantees but the opposing twins of great expectations and certain disaster.

The fault is not entirely theirs, however, many share it. The British and American governments who draft or lure these men onto the battlefields of Northern Ireland and Southeast Asia and discharge them back into their societies without gainful employment, are at fault. More at fault for publicly deploring their going to Angola while privately arranging their transportation with CIA-issued one hundred dollar bills. The CIA and Colonial bagmen are at fault; at fault for (8)having deliberately deceiv-

ed these men. For not having told them that Edgar Rice Burroughs dealt in fiction, that Tarzan doesn't reside in Africa anymore, that Jungle Jim was nothing more than a celluloid hero; at fault for having failed to apprise these aspiring Custers that the natives were not sitting in trees but loftily atop tanks, not shooting blow guns but firing salvos of 122mm rockets, that they weren't flinging spears but percussion grenades, that, indeed, they no longer carry spears but assault rifles. Our "anything for a buck" society, however, is at greatest fault.

No one told these things to Gary Acker, the 21-year-old ex-boot-camp marine, who was sentenced to sixteen years in an Angolan prison (with no earned remission, I would hazard a guess), and maybe he didn't bother to ask. He certainly didn't ask himself of the logic of his own defense; that he, who failed his own military orientation, was employed to go to Angola to "train troops".

Neither did anyone tell Daniel Gerhart, the 34-year old veteran of Viet Nam,

who was sentenced to death, of these things. And certainly, he didn't ask himself that maybe his enemy was not the budding Marxist regime in Angola but the staid Democracy of America. An enemy, that denied him the father of four children, a wife, suburban home and dog, the means to adequately provide for them. An enemy by denying him these means forced him to place the Pallidinesque ad in a magazine: Soldier of Fortune For Hire.

Because no one told him these things and because he never bothered to ask, he, along with 11 others were meted out "revolutionary justice", death for four of them, lengthy prison terms for the others. For it was them all who, though not entirely at fault, nevertheless, took the full blame.

But, "to condemn them to death", said Carlos Macedo, the Angolan lawyer who represented several British mercenaries, "while ignoring their social origins in terms of revolutionary justice would deny the theory which guided our revolution. My clients are an integral part of the exploited class and I ask for clemency". (Ed. Note: The four were executed.)

Attorney Macedo was correct. The defendants are from the exploited class, yet, clemency was denied for the present. It could be granted, however, once the spiritual phase of "Morte" (Death) is supplanted by one expressing more mundane matters and the Angolan people go and tend to them.

All this aside the question remains. Should there be a suitable and internationally recognized and accepted punishment for the crime of mercenarism? (It is a crime, albeit one generally associated with stupidity), whether they be British Gurkhas, French Foreign Legionnaires, Cuban and South African Regulars or the normal dregs and misfits they sweep out of the beer pubs and away from the waterfronts throughout the world?

Should "hired guns" be treated as combatants under the 1949 Geneva Convention, which the American lawyer, Robert Cesner, argued-stipulated that "no prisoner of war may be tried or sentenced for an act which is not forbidden by law of the detaining power or by international law at the time the act was committed".

(Incidentally, the American Congress has never ratified the articles governing the Geneva Convention. Perhaps, to dispel outsiders like mercenaries, of the notion of receiving anything resembling justice for intervening in its internal affairs).

No, they shouldn't be treated as prisoners of war. And neither should the death penalty be used as a wholesale punishment. Though it is applicable to one such as Costras Georgiou, the Cypress - born ex - British paratrooper/bankrobber, who was self-elevated to a Colonelcy to carry out his admitted psychosis of murdering blacks (and I doubt that he, unlike the rest, will be spared) and succeeded in having thirteen of those men under his command executed for not readily assisting him.

What is a just punishment? Perhaps the answer to this should be left to the legal esotericians. However, a fitting punishment for that rag-tag misfit mob of ill-advised, ill-educated, jobless, luckless, military incompetent cowboys who swaggered into Angola is not death or lengthy prison

sentences, but rather some sort of international agreement that should be sought whereby they would be forced to wear dunce caps in full public view, in whatever public they reside in, for the rest of their natural lives.

Though even this wouldn't be an effective deterrent, as any bag man moving through the streets of Salisbury and Johannesburg can attest to.

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THE AVATAR

Each month, the Avatar has a page in which we ask for writings from the inmate population, either articles, poems, jokes or short stories. The response is poor.

There are a couple of cons who are dependable and write something each month but out of a population of 382 men, there should be numerous men submitting material.

This is a prison publication and is a voice for the inmate. It is a simple task for the Avatar staff to fill the magazine with articles we can write but the Avatar is not for just a few peoples

opinion; it is for everyones opinion.

The penitentiary service, the judicial system, the parole system, etc has so many things wrong with them that it is a simple matter to find subject material. We are definitely not living in an Utopia and therefore, articles should be written so that our outside readers can be informed. Many inmates are vocal about the injustices inmates suffer but when it comes to taking a pen in hand and writing about it, they come up with the excuse, "I can't write".

The editorial staff of the Avatar will take any material submitted and put it in readable form and also protect the writer so that his material will not be too inflammable.

The one thing we can't supply is intestinal fortitude. If an inmate is afraid to express his views because of any repercussions he might suffer, there is nothing that can be done.

A diversity of opinion makes for a good magazine; a steady stream of articles by the same few writers lacks clout.

How about an article for the Avatar?

THE FORTUNE SOCIETY

There are many Associations and Societies of various names whose publicized version for their existence is to "help the con." Many of these societies are nothing more than jails with rules and regulations that are stricter than many prisons. Their members even sit in at inmate parole hearings which is an indication of whose side they are on. But, there is also a society or two who really does help the con. The Fortune Society of Canada is one of these.

Each month, two members of the Fortune Society come to Collins Bay to interview inmates.

John Madden and Norm Mayers are the two representatives. Both of these men are soft-spoken and act in a manner which puts the inmate at ease.

Unlike some other societies they do not pry into an inmate's past. They are more interested in what an inmate

can do than what he has done to get into jail. They are realistic and realize that prison is not a church and that we aren't angels.

The Fortune Society is an organization which provides an employment program through direct contact with business and industry whereby a person who wants to get on his feet can get a job without embarrassment of his past.

They have canvassed the City of Toronto thoroughly and have found approximately 800 companies who are willing to hire ex-cons. These companies do not hire anyone because they are ex-cons but, if the man is capable to do the job, he will be hired despite the fact he is an ex-con.

While basically a Toronto organization, the Fortune Society also has many contacts in other cities and more important than anything else, they are willing to help everybody.

The Fortune Society is not a

half-way house but they will provide accomodation for men going to Toronto on a T.A. to seek employment.

If anyone leaving prison

wants any help in finding a job, it is recommended that they put their name in to see Norm Mayers and John Madden. They are a pleasant surprise.

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INMATE SHOWS INTELLIGENCE - A NO/NO

Nancy Ward-Armour

When will inmates learn that they must hide their intelligence from envious members of our controlling bureaucratic keepers?

After winning back T.A.'s for deportable inmates, we have yet to gain the right to have an unescorted pass for the deportable ones. However, the parole board has seen fit to grant temporary day parole to deportables to attend university. One of the women had her unescorted pass cancelled after the Inmate Training Board had already approved it. It seems they had second thoughts at the last minute and as the inmate was waiting at the gate to be released, she was informed that she could not go out that day.

The reasons given were very

dubious - and varied. "They don't trust her." They feel that she has been giving them a "snow job" all along. (Her conduct was too good! Her only charge was that of brushing her teeth after 11 p.m.)(Come on Nancy, admit it. That is a heinous crime). With that horrid blemish on her record, she should be lashed at least. Her major crime is that she uses a higher vocabulary than most staff can comprehend so she is accused of looking down her nose at them. I feel quite safe in writing this article as I assume they are not capable of reading it. Wow! I can go to town now. All along I had the misconception they could read and write and even converse the way humans do, but now, I understand things. We are being jailed and punished for our intel-

ligence. With my record, I must be a genius.

For all newcomers to the Prison for Women, here is a little advice that has been tried and true for years. "Be a complete wing - ding. Disobey all orders; be mouthy, pushy, and use only one syllable words. Above all else, do not be reasonable or use discretion." This attitude should be maintained for a few months and then pull "the big change". Be super-co-operative. They will then feel that they have been the cause of your "rehabilitation"..... which is what they actually believe they are supposed to do. Above all else, remember, that they never credit an inmate with being a sane, educated, intelligent or rational human being. We are all incapable, spoiled children in their eyes and must act accordingly or get screwed accordingly.

Yes, I am glad to see that the prison system has lived up to my expectations.

Knowing their capabilities, they were not high, in fact, they weren't anything.

As I close this article, I am amused to notice an insignia on the front of the

Solicitor General's Department official garbage truck
.....read it the next time
you see one...it says HEIL.

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HERE AND THERE

Otto Jelinek, Federal P. C. MP for High Park, jumped on the bandwagon approximately one year ago when it was popular to speak out against the inmates of Millhaven. He wanted all of the inmates' privileges taken away from them and have them locked up in their cells. The people in Toronto "ate it all up." "Old Otto" had told them."

But "Old Otto" (he's young isn't quite the model person himself. He obtained a \$1,000 grant for first time home owners but it seems "Otto" owned a condominium where he lived, (so his neighbours say, but he denies) so he is giving his \$1,000 grant to charity. Tax deductible, of course.

Otto, the millionaire, did not break the law or so the Conservative government has decreed, but, wouldn't one say, it was a bit unethical

Another Law & Order preacher bites the dust. When will the public learn????

FLASH BULLETIN FLASH

(Satire)

Andy McConaghy

We have just received word that the C.I.A. has had the offices of the National Parole Service bugged for some time. However, because their listening devices failed to pick up any intelligent conversations, they have withdrawn their surveillance. The following is an example of their recordings of conversations that was picked at random.

The people speaking appear to be a Mr Officious, a Supervisor and a Mr Bumbolino, a Parole Investigator.

Mr Officious: "Now Bumbolino, I want a full detailed report of your investigation. "

Bumbolino: "All right, I tell you. Monday, we watch-a suspect's house but he no come out. He wasn't home. Tuesday, we go to the ball game but he fool us, he no show up. Wednesday, he go to ball game but we fool him, we no show up. Thursday was a double-header and nobody show up. Friday, it rained all day and there was no ball game so we stayed home and listened to a game on the radio."

Mr Officious: "Then you didn't shadow the suspect?"

Bumbolino: "Sure, we shadow the suspect. We shadow him all day."

Mr Officious: "What day was that?"

Bumbolino: "Shadowday! HaHaHa. Atsa some joke, eh boss?"

After listening to this tape, the Head of the C.I.A. decided that it was a waste of the \$1.98 that he was spending to continue the surveillance. So from now on, the Parole Service can feel secure in the knowledge that the C.I.A. will pay as much attention to them as everybody else does - none at all.

INQUIRING REPORTER

Wayne Hurlburt

This month's question: What is your opinion of the National Parole Board? Do you feel inmates receive a fair hearing? what changes would you make if you could?"

William Robinson:

"I think they are just a bunch of people taking money for nothing. They grant a few paroles but hardly enough. When you are sentenced, the judge gives you more time because he thinks the Parole Board will let you out early anyway, but in most cases, they don't.

How can you get a fair hearing when all you are doing is writing them? Their opinions are already formed before they ever lay eyes on you.

As far as changes are concerned, I feel that they should get rid of all of the older members. How could they put an ex-cop on a Parole Board? That is dumb! They should not have so much authority. They don't have to answer to anyone and an inmate has no one to appeal to.

Dominic Racco:

"With my own experience with the parole board, whether it's there or not makes no difference to me. It does create more jobs for people and I guess it does let a few people out.

I don't believe everyone receives a fair hearing. No. They just do whatever they feel like doing at the time. If there was fairness to it all, there would be more people getting out and they wouldn't be bringing so many back on Mandatory. The only change I would make would be to do away with it all together. Just from my point of view, the old system where you earn your good time and when you get out, you are completely free, is much better.

Larry Buttle:

"First of all, I think they are in a middle of a bureaucracy. The first being the Canadian Penitentiary Service and the second being politics. Although we are told that they have complete authority concerning parole,

a perfect example of the shifting of their authority is the new parole legislation.

I don't believe inmates receive a fair hearing. First of all, we are threatened by being out-numbered when we appear before the board. And secondly, they have far more information than we have.

The first thing I would like to see happen is that someone named by the inmates (from outside) acting on the inmates behalf, with all the information being made available to them that is available to the parole board.

One of my biggest complaints is that the parole board don't know us and cannot be fair with only a 15 or 20 minute interview.

Wayne Comeau:

I find it very strange that the Parole Board will request that an inmate present a parole plan and then they make changes in his parole plans which hinder the inmate and his future success on the street, e.g. telling an inmate to get accepted at a half-way house and then granting parole only if he goes to C.C. Montgomery Centre.

I don't think there is any consistency in the Parole Board.

The time factor prevents an inmate from receiving a fair hearing. I think the most important factor is the interview a month preceding your appearance before the board itself. The interviewer always seems to be in a hurry and in most cases, he only sees the inmate once, maybe for an hour or even less.

I also think the Parole Board should be forced to give a good and solid reason when parole is denied. Presently, we stay in jail for years not knowing why we were turned down, therefore not being able to correct their reasons.

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Ed.Note: Because this is a touchy subject, many inmates refused to express an opinion because of repercussions they might suffer.

In the next issue of the Avatar, we will write an article on some of the means and ways practiced by the parole board in their dealings with prisoners in the penitentiaries.

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VOYAGEUR BUS 2344



George Watson

Whoever coined the phrase, "Go By Bus and Leave The Driving To Us", sure wasn't talking about the Voyageur Bus. They do the driving but a person better not be in a hurry to get to their destination.

Arriving at the bus terminal in Montreal 50 minutes before departure time for Kingston, I had a coffee and then joined the line-up for the bus. It was the Toronto Express and was due to arrive in Kingston at 12:55 p.m. which would give me plenty of time. What a dreamer I was.

The Toronto passengers were loaded first and when the bus was filled, the driver turned to the rest of us still standing on the platform and said, "There will be another bus in a few minutes."

Sure enough, the first bus pulled away and a second bus appeared with Toronto Express marked on it. The remaining people were loaded on the bus and then, the driver, turning to face us, asked, "Does anyone know

how to get out of Montreal?" We all laughed, thinking the bus driver had a great sense of humour - but he was serious! He had never driven a bus on the Toronto route before. After he had received instructions, we pulled out of the terminus. A little white-haired lady across the aisle from me muttered a, "my goodness," and shook her head in disbelief. Little did she know but she would be shaking her head quite often. One hour later, we were just a little way past Dorval, just a few miles from Montreal, stopped on the Service Road and the bus driver was asking a truck driver where the Fairview Mall was. He was told to get back on the highway for six miles and take the St. Jean something or other cut-off. We still hadn't hit the highway. We had travelled on the Service Road all the way! After getting on the highway, finally, and travelling the six miles, we came to the cutoff and left the highway, over the overpass, heading towards the St. Lawrence River. The

little old lady across from me said, "My goodness, where are we going now?" I replied, "Not too far, because the river will stop him."

After a drive for about 5 or 6 miles, we turned around and headed back to the highway. The Fairview Mall runs alongside the highway! We stopped at the Mall and about a dozen people boarded the bus. I heard one lady say she was going to Trenton which didn't mean anything at the time - but it was going to mean a lot. We finally got back on the highway and proceeded in the direction of Kingston. The bus travelled at a good speed and it seemed that we might still get to Kingston on schedule, but I didn't know our bus driver.

At Gananoque, we drove up the ramp and over the overpass towards the town. My little old lady friend, (by now, we were pals), asked me, "My goodness, isn't this supposed to be an express bus?" Busy cursing the driver under my breath, I didn't reply. We stopped by a parked truck and heard the driver ask for directions to the Totem Pole Motel. "Did he ask where a motel was?" asked the little old lady. "Yes," I replied, "he is probably tired from

all the travelling and wants a place to sleep." With a "my goodness" and a shake of her head, the old lady smiled and went back to reading her pocket novel. It seems the bus had some passengers for the 1,000 Mile Boat Tour and the terminus was the Totem Pole Motel. (They could have stayed on the bus and with our driver, taken the 1,000 Mile Bus Tour). After the people got off the bus, we once again headed for Kingston. We were about a half an hour late and as the bus left the 401 and we drove along Division Street in Kingston, I stood up so that I would be the first one off the bus. I soon sat down again. We stopped for a red light kitty-corner from the bus terminal where a bus was pulling out. Turning to the lady who was going to Trenton, the driver said, "There goes your bus." The woman had nothing to worry about because we were going after it! Turning right instead of left into the terminus, we chased the bus for Trenton. With horn blaring & lights flashing, we made one turn after another in pursuit of the other bus. My little old lady friend from across the aisle said, "My goodness, I was in the London Blitz but I have

ACROSS

1. Arrow Parts
6. W Pakistan River
10. Charge a gun
14. Prevent
15. Moon's dark area
16. Heraldic bearing
17. Acts of going
19. Crazy: slang
20. Abrasive tip
21. The "N" of NHL
23. Grain bundle
25. Transpose into type
26. Saigon holiday
27. Lived
29. Do a farming job
31. Society newcomer informal
33. Chalice
34. Blackthorns
36. Tremendous power
40. Near in location
42. More judicious
44. Quartette less one
45. Walk over
47. Ocean movements
49. Every
50. High rock
52. Pack down tightly
53. Cape ---
54. --- and downs
57. Scout unit
59. Guileless
61. Recent arrival
64. Office workers informal
67. False God
68. Walked beyond
70. Poi source
71. Forbid authoritatively
72. Penetrate
73. Pung
74. At one time

75. Singer Della -----

66.
69.

DOWN

1. Ordered
2. Affirm
3. Right to retrace
4. Impetuous
5. Public ways
6. Tex. univ.
7. Caution
8. Regions
9. Examined
10. Trademark: informal
11. Praying figure
12. Aquatic plants
13. Distributed cards
18. Tracks
22. Bit of info
24. Ride on water
27. Require
28. Muslim prince
30. On the level
32. Small piece
35. French town
37. Musical Embellishment (2 words)
38. Hi Lili ----
39. Made known
41. Fedora
43. Come together again
46. Flightless bird
48. Illegal pitch informal
51. Take away
54. Army platoons
55. Treadle
56. Cursed
58. No way
60. Author Jules -----
62. Doit
63. Soaks hemp
65. Poems

ry: var.
onsense!

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17					18						19			
20							21				22			
		23				24		25				26		
27	28			29			30		31		32			
33				34				35		36		37	38	39
40			41		42				43		44			
45				46		47				48		49		
			50		51		52					53		
54	55	56		57		58		59			60			
61			62				63		64				65	66
67					68			69						
70					71						72			
73					74						75			

ARTICLES: POEMS:
JOKES: ETC.
WANTED!

The Avatar is a prisoners' publication and is a medium for inmates and interested people on the outside to air their views.

Inmates wanting to contribute to the Avatar can drop their material in the Avatar Box on the Strip.

Subscribers are invited to send material for printing. We would also like their opinions on the magazine.

Send your letters to:

The Editor,
Avatar,
P.O. Box 190,
Kingston, Ontario



THE MAJOR LEAGUES

There have been more player changes in the major league since the start of the season than there are sock changes at noontime Monday.

The Expos who started the season with six Saints on their team has one player left of their original roster. They have changed the name of their team to the Phillies but need more than a new name. Between inmate transfers and other inmates quitting, and at times, questionable managing, the Phillies are firmly entrenched in the league cellar.

The Yankees and the Mets are tied for first place and the Mets with the best pitcher in the league, Leo Smith and the acquisition of John McKernan and a few good trades are the main threat to win it all. The Yankees are also a strong contender to win it all. They are a slick-fielding team and have two of the better players in the institution in Wayne Hurlburt and Bill Robinson. (24)

Each team has brought up a few players from the Minor Leagues and they have fitted in well.

Whether it is the weather or just plain lack of interest, the number of good players who have quit baseball is the largest number in years.

STANDINGS (as of June 30)

Team	W	L	T	Pts
Yankees	10	7	1	21
Mets	10	7	1	21
Phillies	6	10	0	12

TOP TEN BATTERS (At least 40 times at bat)

Player	AB	HITS	AVE.
Hurlburt	60	31	.517
Robinson	58	28	.483
Smith	56	22	.394
Ferguson	64	25	.392
Schieman	41	15	.368
McKernan	47	16	.341
Humphreys	52	16	.308
Barnes	48	14	.292
Roy	48	14	.292
Lariviere	61	17	.279

MINOR LEAGUES:

The Minor League, (entertainment capital of the world), started with only three teams but were quickly overflowed with players which made it necessary to expand to four. After a lop-sided start with some unbelievable scores, the teams are becoming more balanced and the league more competitive.

Participation and enthusiasm are extremely high this year. Pool games were necessary to accomodate those who were not on a regular team.

The Dodgers, managed by Teach Simmons hold down the first place spot and one of the main reasons is their pitcher, Rick Beaudoin.

Right behind the Dodgers are the Steelers who are managed by Gary Putman. One of Gary's best moves was his picking up John Grimes, the Steeler's pitcher, in a trade.

In third place are the Pirates, managed by Max Booth. Once again, one of the ones responsible for the Pirates success is their pitcher, Albert Guay.

In last place, despite some pretty good ball players, are the Hustlers managed by Larry Buttle. Once the Hustlers "get it all togeth-

er, they will be a contender.

The brand of ball being played in the Minor Leagues this year is a much better calibre than last year. Many of the players have been called up to the major Leagues and there are still many more who are capable of playing Major League ball. Many prefer to play in the Minors because "it is more fun".

STANDINGS

(as of June 30th)

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>PTS</u>
Dodgers	10	5	20
Steelers	9	6	18
Pirates	7	7	14
Hustlers	3	11	6

TOP TEN BATTERS

(as of June 30 - Min 35AB)

<u>PLAYER</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>HITS</u>	<u>AVE</u>
Branton	45	23	.510
Patterson	46	22	.477
Bailey	52	24	.460
Guay	40	17	.425
Putman	58	24	.414
Hodgins	54	22	.407
Davis	61	24	.393
Prokipczuk	41	16	.390
Sweeney	38	13	.341
Harrison	43	13	.302

The Major League Commissioner is Midge Pallister and the Minor League Commissioner is Wayne Hurlburt.

OLDTIMERS GAME

To most of the old - timers this was not their first ball game, although they played like it could be their last. They came out on top of a 14-8 score and left the kids with a wounded ego and hopes of a rematch.

Larry Ferguson tagged Bob Young for a home run in the very first inning, but then Young struck out the side. Too old to let one run upset them, the old - timers came right back to score 2 runs of their own on hits by Wally Sawchuk, Don DeRosie and Dave Campbell.

The kids never made a serious threat for five innings, thanks to an infield that totalled over 250 years of experience.

Losing by an 8-4 score in the eighth inning, the kids refused to lay down and die.

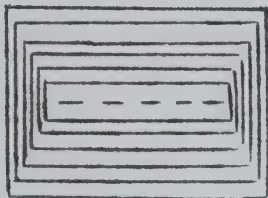
Andy Kessel led off with a single followed by doubles by Robin Stemmler and Dave Humphries (Manager for the youngsters) and singles by John Atkinson and Tom Havers to produce 4 runs and a tie game. Not to be outdone, the old-timers showed it would take more than a hot day and 8 innings of ball to slow

them down. Honky Sawchuk started the eighth with a home run and immediately fell asleep after crossing home plate. That bucket of cold water must have given him the get up and go to get around the bases in record time. The slowest I have ever seen.

Walks to Don DeRosie and Manager Leo Smith, followed by doubles by Bob Young and Beep McClusky put the finishing touches on a six-run inning, and that was all the old - timers needed to cinch the victory.

Andy Kessel, defensive star for the kids turned a double play that opened Midge Pallisters eyes. (Saint Mgr) Ferguson hit two home runs but failed to touch second base on the last one.

George Watson and Mike Bastien shared the defensive honors for the Geritol Gang. George for a steady performance throughout the game and Mike for the spectacular catch that doubled up Andy Kessel to end the game. Offensively, it was Honky Sawchuk who was the star of the game with three hits one of which was a home run that won the game.



THE SAINTS



The Saints have had more ups and downs this year than a roller coaster.

After losing their first 3 games in a row, they came back and won the next 3. They then proceeded to lose 4 of the next 5 games with a tie game accounting for the fifth game.

One of the teams that has been giving the Saints a rough time is the new entry in the Circle Fastball League, Plane's Concrete. They defeated the Saints in the first two games they played but on June 21st, it was another story.

In their two victories over the Saints, Plane's Concrete faced Teddy Woods but in the third game, they were introduced to Leo Smith.

Leo had a great game for the Saints. He limited the Concrete men to two hits, had two hits, a single and a home run, was walked two times and drove in three runs.

For one of the few times this year, everyone on the

Saints played up to their capabilities.

Wayne Hurlburt led off with a home run in the first inning and before the inning was completed, the Saints had scored eight runs.

Six of the Saints had two hits each and everybody got at least one hit.

The final score of the game was 15-0 for the Saints.

The Saints were "loose" and this had a great deal to do with their success. Every game they play, there is a lot of pressure on them to win due to the fact they are representing the institution while it doesn't seem to matter to the outside teams if they win or not.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

NOTICE

While not implying that it takes a long time for the Avatar to get printed after we have finished writing it just in case, we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

I lay awake and listen to the stillness of the night,
I close my eyes to hide these prison bars from sight.
And in thought, I take myself to some far and distant
day,
As we ran and played in the field to pass the time
away.

We stopped to listen to a meadow lark sing its pretty
song,
And we both knew it was happy and content to sit and
sing all day long.
You stop to pick a pretty flower as we walk along a
stream,
With both of us in our world of some far and distant
dream.

I sit and watch as you wander and look about,
And I hear the sound of your sweet voice in a joyous
little shout.
I look towards the sound and see a little animal staring
at you in fear,
And you look like an angel beside God's creation,
a little baby deer.

Through the silky material of your blouse, I see the
pounding of your heart,
As you reach out to hold it and it moves with a quick
and sudden start.
Then suddenly, my thoughts are shattered like a hundred
times before,
Shattered by that hateful sound, of a closing cell block
door.

Paul McCue

As I sit here in my class, my mind wanders far away,
Back to the Reservation and a bright summer day.
I dream about fishing out on that crystal, clear lake,
Sipping on a can of pop, and munching on a piece of cake.

I can almost feel the soft, cool breeze brush across my
face,
As I look up and see the seagulls, through the sky,
happily race.
I hear the water against my boat going slap, slap, slap,
I get a bite, give a yank, and a fish is laying upon
my lap.

A little laugh for Mother Nature's touch of luck,
And back into the water, my line, I carefully chuck.
Then suddenly, my mind comes racing back to class,
English is all over, gosh/the morning went by fast.

Paul McCue

THE PEN

Here I sit, still as night,
With nothing to do but read and write.
The days go by, slow and blue,
How I long for them to be through.

At night there is hardly a sound,
Except for the guards prowling around.
I hear the odd squeak and turn of a key,
But none of it is new to me.

My time is finished, they're letting me out,
But all of the staff are wearing a pout.
The Warden offers his hand for me to shake,
But it is an offer I do not take.

Jerry Dowe

JAIL

As I sit here in my cell,
Is it something like this down in hell?
Or is there a place really called that?
Maybe you can answer it with a baseball bat.

Some people say this place is bad,
But it makes me kind of glad.
It is alright in these places,
At least I learned to tie my laces.

It is really okay, I have got to say,
I never had it out there this way.
Maybe some day I'll have to change,
Right now I'll settle for life on the cellblock
range.

Others may have a different point of view,
But I'll settle for a plate of beef stew.
I don't know how to end this tale,
If you like it, you won't find a better place to
start,
Than jail.

Kurtis Rogers

W H Y

I just don't see the reason why,
Most peoples aims are the sky.
This is something that really puzzles me,
The answer is something I just can't see.

I really don't know where to look,
And you won't find it in any book.
Is there something there I don't know?
Maybe this is the place to go.

When that's accomplished and you're all through,
Is there something else you can do?
Some day the answer will come by,
But who really knows the reason why?

Kurtis Rogers

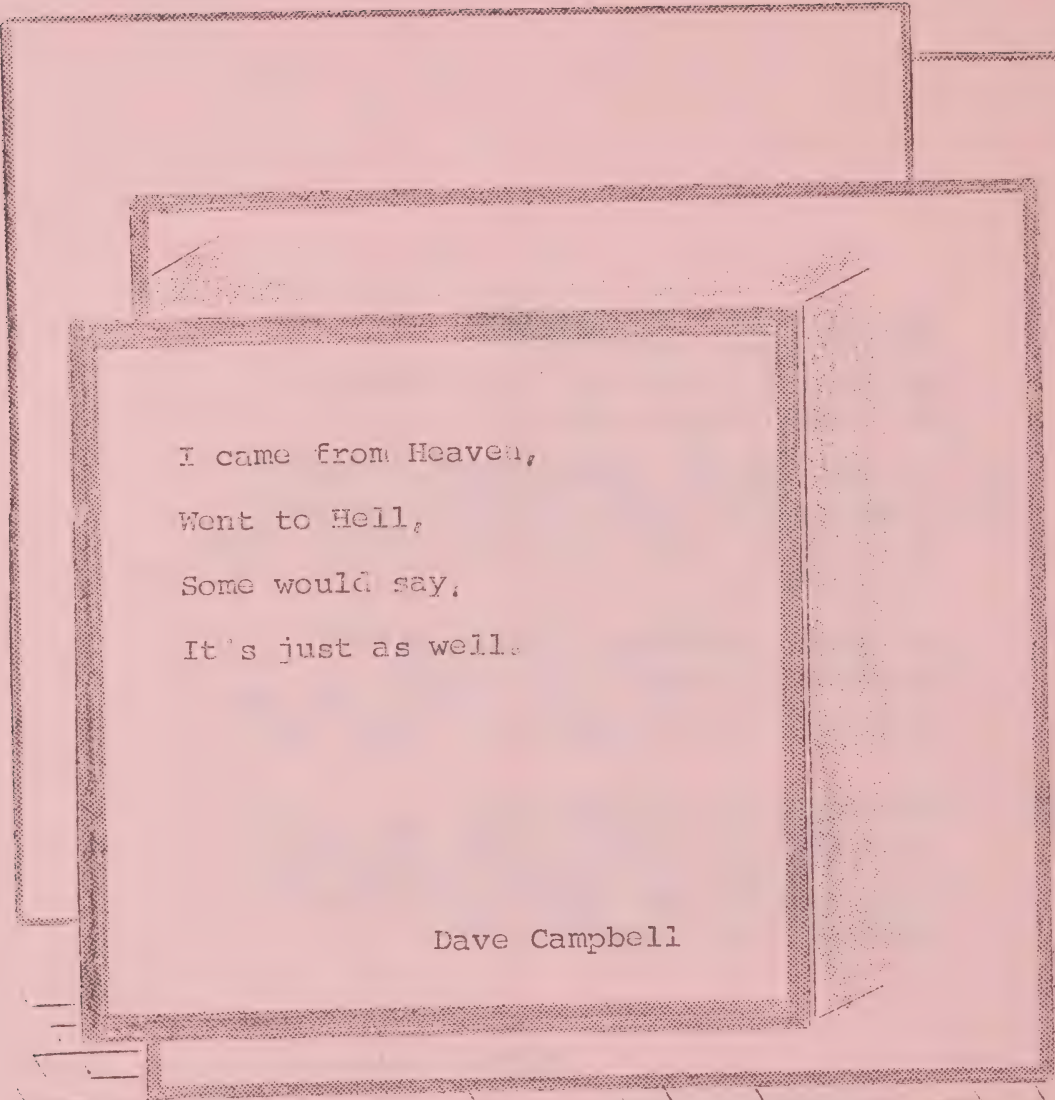
Sittin here - a - thinkin
of the years gone by,
My eyes are wet and - a - blinkin,
My breath but a sigh.

Oh what wasted years they've been,
I've been in prison since my teens.
Most of my loved ones have passed away,
It seems as though Mr Evil is here to stay.

Oh what heartaches I have caused,
Because I wouldn't be bossed,
But when you're young, you do not cry,
You want to be known as a tough guy.

But when one becomes old,
He wishes he'd done as he was told.
Tho' one can't bring back the past,
Just try to make up in the future,
However long that'll last.

Midge Pallister



I came from Heaven,
Went to Hell,
Some would say,
It's just as well.

Dave Campbell

(continued from page 19)
never seen anything like this. Where are we going?" "Probably Chicago," I replied, "but with this guy at the wheel, nothing will be surprising." After a chase of five miles or so, we pulled alongside the Trenton bus and gave up our passenger. Then we turned around and headed back towards the terminus. We finally pulled into the terminus and our sight-seeing driver opened the door. I said to the driver, "That was a nice gesture on your part, chasing a bus with a busload of passengers but the Director will never believe me." "Who is the Director? Is he the boss of your firm?" asked the driver. "I guess you could say that," I told him as I got off the bus and ran for a taxi.

I wonder if that bus ever reached Toronto or if it is lost somewhere up in the Muskoka Lake Area.

A friendly suggestion to anyone travelling from Montreal to Kingston - take the train. The engineer has to follow the tracks and it is only 186 miles that way.

By bus, it's way over 200 miles - especially on Bus 2344.

+++++

HOMICIDE LAGS BEHIND SMOKING AND DRINKING DEATHS

Homicide, focus of parliamentary debate on capital punishment, is still far less common in Canada than death by smoking, drinking or driving.

A study of homicide by Statistics Canada shows that industrial accidents claim more lives than criminal homicide.

There are 12 times as many deaths from lung cancer, five times as many from cirrhosis of the liver, 12 times as many traffic deaths and five times as many suicides.

The chances of being killed by a stranger were two in one million. In nine slayings out of ten, the victim and the suspect knew each other.

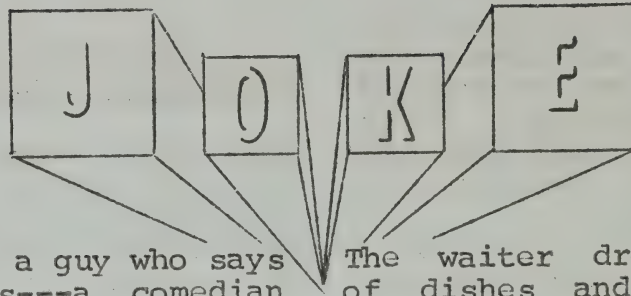
The report also says that murder statistics are illusory because they are based on police reports and the number of convictions are far fewer than the number of charges.

Montreal Star

+++++

A peace which depends upon fear is nothing but a suppressed war.

-- Henry Van Dyke --



"A comic is a guy who says funny things---a comedian is a guy who says things funny."

+ + + + +

"My uncle loved crossword puzzles so much that on the day he died, he asked to be buried six down and three across,"

+ + + + +

The Irishman was really loaded. "Don't you know drinking shortens a man's life?" his doctor told him. "Yes," he hic'd, "but you see twice as much in the same length of time."

+ + + + +

This man was so rich the finance company owed him money. He had a diamond stomach pump, silver walls, and mink garbage. In his house, if you wanted a salad of mixed greens, they served you shredded tens and twenties.

+ + + + +

The waiter dropped a tray of dishes and six couples got up to dance.

+ + + + +

They televised the whole ceremony at Sing Sing. Just as the murderer was about to sit down in the electric chair, the commercial came on, "You can be sure if its Westinghouse."

+ + + + +

Use Jack Carter's liver pills. One man I know used them all his life and finally died at the age of 103 and three days later they had to beat his liver to death with a club.

+ + + + +

The movie queen got a call from the columnist. "I want to check on a rumour before I print it--- the story is that you and your fifth husband aren't getting along too well." "Absolutely ridiculous! the star exploded. "We had a few words and I shot him but that's as far as it went."

He didn't care how much she spent on clothes, because as he put it, "she takes excellent care of her wardrobe." In fact, he explained, to press his point, "the other day I came home and found a guy in the closet guarding them."

+ + + + +

He comes from a family of writers: his sister writes poems nobody will recite, his brother writes songs nobody will sing, and he writes cheques nobody will cash.

+ + + + +

Jerry Lewis tells it on himself: "When I was a kid I said to my father one afternoon, Daddy, will you take me to the zoo?" "If the zoo wants you," he answered, "let them come and get you."

+ + + + +

I don't believe in that junk about breaking mirrors and having seven years of bad luck. My uncle broke a mirror last week and he was killed in an accident the same day.

+ + + + +

"Dad," asked the small boy, "Why is a man not allowed to have more than one wife?"

"My son," replied the father, "When you are older, you will realize that the law protects those who are incapable of protecting themselves."

+ + + + +

Joe: "My uncle knew a month before his death the exact date he was going to die."

Moe: "How did he know?"

Joe: "The judge told him."

+ + + + +

A man in a restaurant complained to his waiter: "I don't like all the flies in here."

"Very well, sir," the waiter said helpfully. "Just point out the ones you dislike and I'll put them out."

+ + + + +

A small boy scowling over his report card said to his dad: "Naturally I seem stupid to my teacher; she's a college graduate."

+ + + + +

THE OMBUDSWOMAN

George Watson

One of the very few good things that the Solicitor General has done since he was elected was to appoint Inger Hansen as the Correctional Investigator.

Ms Hansen, a soft-spoken lady, has been in office since June 1st, 1973 and her second annual report covering the period June 1, 1974 to May 31st, 1975 has been submitted to Warren Allmand.

Many inmates have looked to Ms Hansen as a "cure-all" and when they have discovered that Ms Hansen could not "cure-all", they have written her off which is unfair to the lady.

Like her title says, she is an investigator. Her function is to investigate inmate complaints and when justified, bring them to the attention of the Solicitor General. If they are not acted on, then the fault lays with Warren Allmand.

If Ms Hansen never did another thing, her 73/74 (38

Report to the Solicitor General in which she recommended that a special study be made of the use of dissociation and which was responsible for the Vantour Task Force being appointed justifies her appointment.

Other recommendations she made in her 73/74 report were:

- (1) That the relevant acts be amended to permit all persons under sentence equal opportunity to earn remission regardless of place of incarceration. (This has been implemented).
- (2) That time spent in custody after conviction regardless of place of incarceration be taken into consideration in respect of time required to be served before being eligible for T.A.'s. (Being considered)
- (3) That the automatic loss of statutory remission on conviction of escape and related offences be abolished. (Being considered).

There are many more but we

will look at her latest recommendations:

(1) That inmate committees be encouraged to submit one brief annually to the Solicitor General.

(2) All disciplinary hearings of charges of what are defined as serious or flagrant offences in the Commissioner's Directive, be recorded on tape, and that the tapes be preserved for a minimum of 12 months and be made available for the purposes of dealing with inmate grievances and complaints.

(3) The Commissioner's directive be amended to provide that an individual who has been identified as having been affiliated with organized crime shall be eligible for a T.A. for rehabilitative reasons after he has served three-quarters of his sentence or three years, whichever is the shorter.

(4) Only in an apparent emergency shall an inmate be transferred without prior consideration by a Transfer Board.

(5) If a transfer of an inmate has taken place without consideration by a Transfer Board, then a Transfer Board shall automatically be convened within 30 days to assess the

reasons for the transfer as well as the inmate's present behaviour, and to make appropriate recommendations for the future placement of the inmate.

There is also a recommendation dealing with deceased inmates to provide that the next-of-kin will be notified in person of an inmate's death.

Inmates made 720 complaints to the Correctional Investigator during the 74/75 year and 106 were either resolved or rectified.

While her job is to investigate, in some cases, when she points out to the prison administration a glaring injustice, she has been successful in having the problem rectified.

Ms Hansen can only investigate matters pertaining to the penitentiary system and has no jurisdiction with the Parole Board or Service.

In her Annual Report, there are samples of the cases she has been called on to investigate. They range from Medical, Visits, Use of Force, Rights to Language etc.

There is a copy of the 74/75 Report in the Avatar office and anyone wishing to borrow it can do so - just make sure you return it.

SOLITARY CONFINEMENT REPORT NOW BEING PUT INTO FORCE

(Reprinted from Montreal Star)

The federal penitentiary service is moving to implement recommendations of the Vantour Report on solitary confinement.

The recommendations include: Establishing short-term segregation units in each region, where prisoners can be kept for no more than 30 days, while establishing separate regional facilities for those being kept apart for longer terms.

Establishing formal committees within each establishment to review the records of prisoners in segregation at least every 30 days with full written records of each meeting.

Provision of quiet cells where prisoners can get relief from the constant company of other prisoners for periods up to three days in each regional centre, with prisoners being advised within one working day why they are being placed in segregation.

Maintaining contact for prisoners in segregation

with their regular classification officer instead of giving their file to a special officer, except when a prisoner is transferred to a long-term segregation unit.

Providing special accommodation for new prisoners separate from the general prison population so their records can be checked to see if they need protection, and use of general prison facilities during hours when the general population is not using them.

Allowing members of citizen advisory committees to attend disciplinary hearings as observers.

And taking into account studies now under way into the possibility of segregation causing in sensory deprivation - such as hearing.

The Vantour Report resulted from complaints by prisoners concerning many aspects of solitary confinement and segregation and was one of the recommendations made by Inger Hansen, the Correctional Investigator.



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THINK ABOUT IT:

Like the army,
police forces and
penitentiary jobs
are entered into voluntarily.



A MAN CAN'T JUST QUIT THE
ARMED FORCES BUT IF ANYONE
EMPLOYED AS A COP OR PRISON
GUARD DOESN'T LIKE CANADA'S
LAWS, THEY CAN ALWAYS QUIT.

— FIRST-CLASS-MAIL —